GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6854
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
EXPORT OF POTATOES
ANANTA NAYAK;RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA;TRILOCHAN KANUNGO;Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of efforts made by the Government to give impetus to the export of potatoes;

(b) the countries to whom potato is being exported from India;

(c) the quantum and value of potato exported to these countries during each of the last three years;

(d) the names of countries which are competing with India in regard to production and export of potato;

(e) the details of research, if any, conducted for higher productivity of potato to compete in the world market;

(f) whether recent US-Iraq war has affected potato export from the country; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to find out alternative market to avoid the crash in the potato prices and glut in the States from which potato is exported?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) Steps taken by the Government for promotion of export of potato include inter-alia the following:

- Setting up of exclusive Agri Export Zones (AEZs) on potatoes in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh with a view to adopt better pre and post harvest practices, production and distribution of quality seeds to farmers and better price realisation to them.

- Providing financial assistance to exporters under various Plan schemes of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

- Organising an International Interactive Workshop exclusively on potato during the AAHAR International Event.

(b) Some of the major export destinations for potato from India are Bangladesh, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, UAE etc.

(c) The quantum and value of potato exported from India to various countries for the last three years is at annexure.

(d) Some of the major potato exporting countries are Germany, France, Netherlands, Belgium, USA, Canada, Spain, Pakistan and China.

(e) Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI), Shimla is carrying out research programmes mainly aimed at increasing productivity, evolving high yielding disease resistant varieties, agronomic practices and production of disease free breeders seeds of notified varieties.

(f) & (g) It is not possible to say anything definite at present.

ANNEXURE

Export of Fresh Potato from India to various countries

(Qty: Kg /Value : Rs)

Countries	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Angola	-	-	55,000	4,25,714	-	-
Australia	15,500	46,950	-	-	3,015	14,367
Bangladesh	47,97,560	190,98,926	-	-	1,84,020	10,18,146
Bahrain	1,400	12,096	40,000	2,28,750	-	-

Brunei	-	-	22,400	2,15,468	-	-	
Germany	75,000	3,79,518	-	-	-	-	
UK	75,000	3,46,513	-	-	-	-	
Italy	-	-	-	-	14,400	1,54,231	
Japan	50,000	2,83,703	-	-	-	-	
Sri Lanka	218,	48,979	1109,15,193	144,86,623	832,55,910	3,86,910	24,30,243
Maldives	-	-	7,075	42,052	-	-	
Mauritius	25,000	1,62,938	7,50,000	60,16,572	20,000	82,411	
Malaysia	3,89,562	31,73,829	1,76,992	10,02,529	2,65,800	14,09,778	
Nepal	2,73,360	8,70,608	54,40,296	139,66,272	63,42,769	188,47,089	
Oman	-	-	1,03,480	5,46,219	1,200	12,703	
Qatar	700	1,817	-	-	-	-	
Saudi Arabia	2,300	17,598	37,125	2,43,685	5,310	24,801	
Singapore	1,63,613	7,49,290	71,918	5,42,104	87,000	4,32,700	
UAE	4,82,200	34,73,338	13,55,855	91,44,480	9,41,902	88,84,430	
USA	-	-	90,000	3,79,229	30,000	95,496	
Total	282,00,174	1395,32,317	226,36,764	1160,08,984	82,82,326	334,06,395	

Source : DGCI&S.